# Tisdalle's Wider Highway Proposal Hailed

Greater Victoria municipal leaders lent their weight yesterday to the proposal of Saanich MLA John Tisdalle that the Patricia Bay Highway should be made into a four-lane road "at least past Royal Oak."

Mr. Tisdalle, in the legislature, pictured "some terrible traffic jams" on the highway when the two government ferries go into operation, and called on Highways Minister P. A. Gaglardi to decide now on adding more lanes.

Acting Mayor Arthur Dowell said yesterday he definitely agreed with Mr. Tisdalle.

"I feel that once the ferries are operating, there will be considerably more traffic, both trucks and passenger cars," he said.

"Widening the highway would be a step in the right direction, and every effort should be made to have a wider road and adequate facilities."

Reeve George Chatterton held that some stretches of the road should be widened immediately—he cited the portion of the highway past Elk Lake as a bottleneck — and detailed studies should be made of the rest to determine how soon improvements should be made.

Capital Region Planning Board studies indicated the highway was already being used to capacity at some points such as the junction with the Trans-Canada Highway, he said.

Reeve George Murdoch of Oak Bay also agreed that the highway should be widened to provide extra lanes where slow vehicles now hold up the traffic behind.


LOCAL NEWS

# The Daily Colonist.

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*Five Members Sought*

## Bigger Power Board?

Legislation to increase the B.C. Power Commission from three members to five was introduced in the legislature yesterday.

It also provides for an increase in the commission's borrowing power from $250,000,000 to $3000,000,000.

The commission now has two members, chairman T. H. Crosby and Dr. H. J. MacLeod. The third member, H. H. Griffin, resigned over the government's refinancing proposals.

Also introduced in the legislature was a bill to increase the borrowing power of the PGE Railway from $110,000,000 to $120,000,000 and the Toll Bridges and Highways Authority borrowing power from $80,000,000 to $100,000,000.

## *DDT Not CCF*

**Opposition Leader Robert Strachan made reference yesterday to $15,000 marked in the budget for pest control.**

**"I didn't know if the premier was referring to the opposition members," he said.**

**"Oh no!" the premier replied with a grin.**

*Local Need Stressed*

## Oak Bay Bids For Library

Municipal council last night heard requests from a citizens' group and the board of trade for establishment of a library in Oak Bay.

Both urged a full study of the proposal before entering a long-term agreement to continue sharing city library facilities with Victoria.

Clarence S. Goode, 3190 Ripon, spokesman for a group of 12 Oak Bay residents, told council: "The city even now is trying to commit us to 13 years on contract—which in our view would be fatal for our future."

He said a centrally-located library in Oak Bay would in particular help students, and old people who rely on books for diversion.

"It could hardly cost more than the $33,609.90 we paid to Victoria library for the loan of 112,416 books last year," said Mr. Goode.

"We think with that sort of money we could run our own library and double the borrowings."

John Weiker, secretary-treasurer of Oak Bay board of trade, said in a letter to council "it is the general opinion of our executive that downtown facilities do not cater adequately to the reading needs of our children, wives and the older people of Oak Bay."

*Oak Bay Argument*

## Cesspool Certain If Sea Wall Built

A retired physician told municipal council last night that construction of a breakwater at Turkey Head will turn Oak Bay into a cesspool.

The federal government announced recently it would build a sea wall, long sought by the municipality, to provide safe moorage for small boats.

Dr. A. D. Bechtel, 1621 Prospect Place, said in a letter to council: "I hope you realize this means . . . a stagnation and cesspool in our little bay where many children and adults bathe in summer."

He said council will have no control of boats using the anchorage, and posed the question: "How will commercial fishermen, especially, dispose of their refuse?"

Once the breakwater is in place, Dr. Bechtel said, "the sanitation will be dangerous as the outgoing tide will not clear the bay of litter and other mess unfit to mention."

Council voted to receive and file the letter without further discussion.

## Bonner, Squire To Speak Today

**Speakers in the budget debate in the legislature today starting at 2 p.m. will be Attorney-General Robert Bonner, John Squire (CCF, Alberni), F. Y. Richter (SC, Similkameen), and Tom Bate (SC, Vancouver-Point Grey).**

*New Ferry Wharf May Rise on This Site*

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

## Harbor Area Bought For Ferry Terminal

By HARRY YOUNG
Colonist Business Editor

A Vancouver syndicate is negotiating for property on Victoria Harbor on which to build a $700,000 ferry terminal for the new year-round Victoria - Port Angeles run which is expected to start late this year.

The syndicate, through its agents, Block Bros. Realty of Vancouver has purchased for $12,500 a vacant city lot on Montreal Street near Belleville Street.

**OPTION TAKEN**

It has also taken out an option to purchase within 30 days the adjacent Wilby Machine Shop, and is negotiating for further property in the area.

This is understood to include the Net Loft Restaurant property.

The area is situated between the B-A Paint Company plant and the Fishermen's Wharf.

**TENTATIVE PLANS**

Tentative plans are to construct a modern stern loading ferry terminal with offices and restaurant attached, and with ample car parking facilities for motorists waiting to board ferries.

It is believed that ferries using this wharf would save at least 20 minutes in turnaround time compared with the existing ferry facilities in the Inner Harbor.

The keel of the new $3,000,000 Black Ball Transport Inc. ferry was laid in the Seattle yard of the Puget Sound Bridge and Dredging Company on Jan. 12.

The ship should be ready to go into service late this fall.

## *Seized in City Raid*

Examining merchandise recovered during a raid on a Victoria home last night are detectives Joe Armstrong and Robin Stewart of Saanich, and Ray Maitland of Victoria. They were assisted by detective Dick Berry. About $2,000 worth of merchandise being held at the city police station includes slide projectors, tool boxes, portable typewriters, electrical kitchen appliances, a telescope, a surveyor's tripod, records, a record player and electrical wiring. A man and wife were arrested and will appear in city and Saanich police courts today. —(Colonist photo.)

## *Firemen Cool Off Hot Television Act*

**A "hot" television show brought out Saanich firemen yesterday afternoon.**

**Called at 4 p.m. to the home of George Buckingham, 983 McBriar, firemen found a fire inside a television set.**

**Blaze was extinguished without spreading outside the set.**

100 Apply for 26 Units

## *Decent Homes Urgent Need Of Pensioners*

By TED SHACKLEFORD

More than 100 single old-age pensioners have already made application to rent 26 low-cost housing units being built for the Senior Citizens' Housing Society of Victoria.

The figures point up the urgent need for decent accommodation for single pensioners —unmarried, widowed or divorced.

But what is to happen to the 74 or more pensioners who will have to miss out?

Mrs. May Campbell, president of the society, said last night that an immediate start must be made on a second group of units. Financing is a problem.

"The first group of units was made possible by the Victoria Labor Council," she said. "Members contributed $11,000, which made the society eligible for a provincial government grant of $29,000." The rest of the cost, $65,000, has been borrowed.

Victoria has the largest percentage of old-age pensioners of any city in Canada, Mrs. Campbell pointed out.

Many people have written in offering accommodation, transportation, light work, entertainment and meals for pensioners. All offers have been referred to Mrs. Ethel Bevan of the Silver Threads Service, telephone EV 2-5121.

Much more help is needed. Whether a pensioner is living on $55 a month or $75, every extra dollar helps.

★ ★ ★

Yesterday I had a late breakfast of shredded wheat with milk, two eggs and two slices of bacon, a slice of toast and margarine, and a cup of tea.

I missed lunch completely, and for dinner I had two bowls of soup, half a can of baked beans on toast, and tea.

Apart from the food I have already acknowledged, I have eaten a crumpet, about half a dozen biscuits and some potato chips at friends' homes.

**Colonist reporter Ted Shackleford has been assigned to live on $55 for a month to discover how senior citizens on old-age assistance payments live and what their problems are.**

**He will be available in The Daily Colonist office—EV 3-4111 — between 4 and 5 p.m. each day.**

*Student Parking Furore*

## 'Indolent' Parents Hit

Oak Bay councillors scratched their heads over the problem of student parking last night but failed to come up with a solution to the traffic problem it causes around the high school.

Discussion followed receipt of a letter from an irate parent, Gordon Schneck, 746 Linkleas Avenue, who sharply criticized council "for even acknowledging it as a problem."

Mr. Schenck said: "As a parent I suggest it indolent for parents to permit their strapping youths to ride to school in cars."

Reeve George Murdoch explained that there was never any question of the municipality providing parking facilities for Oak Bay High School. He said council had been informed that Greater Victoria school board planned to level off an area for parking.

Coun. F. A. Robinson said he is opposed to any move to provide parking for students. He said he favors daytime parking restriction on streets surrounding the school, thus forcing students to leave their cars home.

## *Seen in Passing*

**Philip Salmon**, making an announcement with a loud hailer. (He is Scoutmaster of St. Michael's Troop. He and his wife, **Beatrice**, a well-known badminton star, have two children, **Virginia**, 14, and **Charles**, 12. His hobbies are playing badminton and boating) . . . **Sue Pearson** counting the days until her wedding day . . . **Dick Berry** sporting a new hat . . . **Bernard Brennan** helping a friend . . . **Stan Henderson** shovelling off his sidewalk—the third time in one day . . . **Pearl** and **George Robertson** discussing the motel business.

PHILIP SALMON

## No Inquest to Be Held Into Sooke Girl's Death

There will be no inquest into the death of a 13-year-old girl who died Saturday following a fall from a horse, deputy coroner Dr. J. H. Moore said yesterday.

Instead, a coroner's inquiry had been held, with a ruling that Lorna Cosburn, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Cosburn, Sooke Road, died of a skull fracture caused in a fall when her horse ran away.

The accident occurred about 2.15 p.m. on Kangaroo Road. The girl died at 3.30 p.m. in St. Joseph's Hospital, despite the efforts of four doctors to save her life.

Funeral services will be held at 10.30 a.m. today at Sands' funeral home at Colwood, with burial in Hatley Memorial Gardens.

*Over Ship Withdrawal*

## Oak Bay Protest Direct to Ottawa

Oak Bay council will wire a protest direct to Ottawa against the Canadian Pacific Railway plan to discontinue winter ferry service to Vancouver.

It will be addressed to Transport Minister Hees and copies will be sent to local MPs Defence Minister George Pearkes and A. deB. McPhillips.

"The more we shout and hit at the federal government, the better," said Coun. F. W. Hawes. He suggested the CPR cancel its daytime service and retain the night boats until provincial government ferries begin operating next year.

Coun. F. A. Robinson said the CPR should not be allowed to drop the service Feb. 26 and pick it up again with day boats "in the most lucrative part of the season."

Coun. W. G. Ellis termed the move a "great unfairness on the part of the CPR to the people of Victoria."

The matter was raised by Coun. Ralph Mathews who called for a concerted move to get some action from the federal government.

"I know we as a municipality can do very little," he said. "But this is a matter of life and death. It should cut across municipal boundaries."

*In Line with Saanich Policy*

## Keep-TCA Brief Chatterton Backs

Saanich almost certainly will want to join Victoria in a formal protest against Pacific Western Airlines replacing Trans-Canada Air Lines as Victoria's air link with the mainland, Reeve George Chatterton said yesterday.

City council finance committee has called for preparation of a brief to be submitted to the Air Transport Board. According to a notice published by the board, representations must be made by March 2.

Reeve Chatterton said supporting a city brief against the change in service would be in line with Saanich council's expressed policy.

He suggested that the intermunicipal committee should discuss presenting a Greater Victoria united front on the matter, and also that the support of Central Saanich and Sidney should be sought.

## *Mediator Named For City*

First conciliation officer has been appointed in what is expected to be a round of conciliation proceedings between the city and its staff unions.

W. T. McLaughlin has been named conciliation officer in the dispute between the city and the inside-staff union, the City Hall Employees Association.

## *So Many Stray Dogs in Oak Bay 'You Can't Drive a Car in Safety'*

Coun. F. A. Robinson's one-man war against stray dogs in Oak Bay flared up again at last night's council meeting.

He repeated his recent request for a drive to round up strays when council dealt with the municipal pound report for January.

Coun. Robinson said there are two dogs in particular in the Uplands area which cause a traffic hazard, and "you can't drive a car or a kid ride a bike down the street in safety."

Municipal clerk A. D. Findlay drew the attention of council to the fact that the request has already been made to the dogcatcher.

"Well, let's make it again," said Coun. Robinson.

"He goes up there and can't find these dogs," said Mr. Findlay.

"Well, he'd better take these next time," retorted Coun. Robinson tartly, proferring his glasses.

He said following the meeting that he estimated about 15 dogs running loose caused damage to gardens as well as a traffic hazard.